

U.S. Appl. No. 09/996,019
Reply to Office Action dated November 30, 2005

PATENT
450101-03634

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9-11, 19 and 20 are independent and are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically on pages 15 and 20-21. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,201,958 to Boucher (hereinafter, merely "Boucher").

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Boucher in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,360,255 to McCormack, et al. (hereinafter, merely "McCormack").

U.S. Appln. No. 09/996,019
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IV. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

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Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"A network management server connected to a network,
comprising:

transmitting means for transmitting to said information
processing apparatus, a protocol file stating rules for utilizing
Internet services and an access point information file."
(emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Boucher relates to a telecommunications network comprising at least a radio base station and a mobile terminal suitable for sending a secret authentication code to the radio station for making itself known to said network. The invention notably provides a registration procedure for the various terminals with base radio stations to enable the network to facilitate subscriber management. For this purpose, a period of time is allocated to the secret authentication code, so that the registration of a terminal results in the fact that said secret code is supplied at a date lying in said period of time.

As understood by Applicants, McCormack relates to a mechanism and method for integrating a managed network with a network management system. The network management system is used to manage, maintain, and display information about one or more managed networks and network devices in them. Devices in the managed network are upgraded by connecting a browser to the network management system, describing devices in the managed network, and selecting appropriate upgrades.

Applicants respectfully submit that nothing has been found in Boucher that would teach or suggest the features of independent claim 1. Specifically, Boucher does not teach or suggest a network management server connected to a network comprising, a transmitting means for transmitting to said information processing apparatus, a protocol file stating rules for utilizing Internet services and an access point information file, as recited in independent claim 1.

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450101-03634

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 9 and 10 are also believed to be patentable.

Claim 11 recites, *inter alia*:

"An information processing apparatus connected to a network...

wherein said information processing apparatus selects from an access point information file a preset access point geographically proximate to said information processing apparatus." (emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that Boucher or McCormack, taken either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the features of independent claim 11. Specifically, the combination of Boucher and McCormack does not disclose an information processing apparatus connected to a network, wherein said information processing apparatus selects from an access point information file a preset access point geographically proximate to said information processing apparatus, as recited in independent claim 11.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 11 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 11, independent claims 19 and 20 are also believed to be patentable.

V. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from an independent claim discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portion or portions of the reference or references providing the basis for a contrary view.

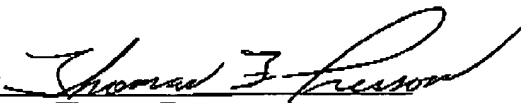
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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